

The Word on the (F) Street

Why We Do What We Do

Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

I could not be more thrilled with what God has allowed us to do at "F" Street Church. It is clearly God at work. Over five years ago, when we realized the reality of "F" Street Neighborhood Church, it was only because God had provided us with a donor to purchase the building. We still had no idea how we would pay for just the utilities and staff, in addition to other startup costs and general repairs. But God has provided. Some of the resources have come from our denominations, (RCA and CRC) and others from individual donors, but all of it by the grace of God.

So, I am grateful to God for the ways in which he has brought people and money, at the right time, to make incredible things become a reality. For example, ATLAS started as a result of another church offering us the use of their space. Transformations Thrift Store is the result of one donor and several dedicated individuals who gave, gave again, and gave more of their time and resources.

Summer is here, and it becomes a busy and crazy time at "F" Street Neighborhood Church. There is Immerse, we have block parties, we have the Farmers Market, and many other events and activities tied to each of these. But why? Why are we busy? To what end? It is for the sake of the gospel. It is our way of working towards the vision that God gave us when we began all of this five years ago: To be a place of Acceptance and Direction; to be a church that is not just in the neighborhood but made up of those from the neighborhood. We are to be a place where **ACCEPTANCE** means that we welcome, love and bless those in our neighborhood in the same manner that we have been welcomed, loved and blessed by Jesus himself. He was the one who accepted us when we were unacceptable. It is for this reason that we host block parties, offer a Farmers Market and more. We want to build bridges to people, and help them experience a little taste of the kingdom while here on earth.

"We want to teach, encourage, and challenge each other to walk in the truth of Gods' word..."

Recently, Beth pointed out to me that in the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 1025-37), all the things that the Samaritan did are really things that Jesus did for us. How awesome is that? He is the unexpected healer, the one who pays our price, who picks us up, mends our wounds and so much more.

DIRECTION means we want to help everyone, who discovers God's love, to be as close to his image as possible on this side of heaven. We want to teach, encourage, and challenge each other to walk in the truth of Gods' word, and serve in a way that looks like him; recognizing that God takes us from the broken mess that we were, and helps us to become people who bring that same welcoming, love and blessing into the lives of others. That is why we do things like Immerse, as well as Community Groups and Theology Club.

We use the Image of Mighty Warriors for the neighborhood, taken from 1 Samuel 22. It was the discouraged, discontented, and indebted that came to David, then later became his Mighty Warriors. We believe that many,



*A Place of Acceptance and Direction
"F" Street Neighborhood Church*

*1302 F Street
Lincoln, NE 68508*

*Pastor Jeff Heerspink
www.fstreetchurch.org
fstreetchurch@gmail.com*

*Volume 5, Issue 7
July 2019*

Calendar for July 2019

- 6th: **Happy Birthday Kat Jordan**
- 7th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Caleb Bridges**
- 9th: 6am Prayer; 7:30pm Freedom Through Christ;
Happy Birthday Beth Heerspink
- 10th: 6pm Youth Group
- 11th: 6:30pm FoodNet; **Happy Birthday Blake Patterson**
- 13th: **Happy Birthday Dawn Bodfield, Jacki Knapp**
- 14th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Michelle Sassali**
- 15th: **Happy Birthday Marti Poll**
- 16th: 6am Prayer; 7:30pm Freedom Through Christ
- 17th: **Happy Birthday Roxi Richardson**
- 18th: 6:30pm FoodNet
- 19th: **Happy Birthday Clarence Mabin,
Marian Shackelford**
- 21st: Sunday Service
- 22nd: **Happy Birthday Debi Crisler**
- 23rd: 6am Prayer; 7:30pm Freedom Through Christ
- 24th: 6pm Youth Group; **Happy Birthday Syncere Triplett**
- 25th: 6:30pm FoodNet
- 27th: **Happy Birthday Anthony Gragg**
- 28th: Sunday Service; **Happy Birthday Susan Ridgeway**
- 30th: 6am Prayer; 7:30pm Freedom Through Christ

Please keep us up to date on birthdays & anniversaries! If you aren't sure that we have your information, talk to Jane Mailand or simply fill out a Welcome Card and hand it to her. In addition, if your address, phone, or email has changed, let Jane know.

who could be described by these same terms today, will become the people God uses to bring about his kingdom here in the neighborhood.

I hope that every one of you, who takes the time to read this, understands that God loves you, and that here at “F” Street Church, we want you to experience God’s acceptance through us. I also hope that for each of you who have found the love of God, through belief in Jesus, would also know that he has a great plan for your life. I hope that we can help you to grow into all that God has for you.

Thanks to God for his provision and to each of you for your involvement.

Baptism Jeff Heerspink, Pastor

On July 7, we will have the amazing opportunity to witness the baptism of another follower of Jesus. I love baptisms. It is a joy to witness the outward expression of what God has done in the life of someone. That is also why we ask those who are older to share their story - to testify to what God has done for them.



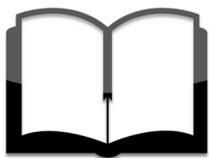
The Bible tells us: **Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!** What a thrill to experience that, not only in our own lives, but in the lives of others.

I hope that you will join us, not only for the baptism on July 7, but afterwards, for the taco party, to celebrate this new life in Christ.

What is required to be baptized?

- We will partner you with another follower of Jesus, who is from “F” Street Church (a mentor), to go through a little booklet we have. This is to make sure that you have a proper understanding what it means to be a follower of Jesus.
- Once this is completed and your mentor believes you are ready, we set a date and throw a party.
- We hope that you will stay connected to your mentor and continue to share your lives together.

Good Read Jeff Heerspink, Pastor



Organic Outreach for Churches

I would like to share a book, that I encourage any of you to read, and would love to see all of you read. The book is called, *Organic Outreach for Churches*, by Kevin G. Harney. (It also comes in the form of *Organic Outreach for Ordinary People*, but I have not read that one yet, and therefore cannot encourage you to read it).

The book was recently recommended to me by a local area leader who is passionate about church multiplication.

I like this book, because Kevin has a deep love for God, the lost,

and the Church, that is his driving force for evangelism. He takes a biblical perspective on all that he does, and encourages churches (and I would assume individuals) to do. At the same time, he does not get lost in the depth of God, and comes out with practical ways of leading a life and church that shares the gospel with others, through individuals in the church as well as the programs of the church.

I encourage you to download or order this book and I would be happy to chat with you about it.

Electronic Giving Adds Flexible Options For Generosity Tad Stryker, Elder

Did you know you can give a financial gift to “F” Street Church electronically? Actually, it’s been possible for well over a year. However, we’ve upgraded and diversified your options using software from Lifeway.

- You can give using our website (www.fstreetchurch.org). Choose the ***Donate*** link, and use the interface. You can give cash, a gift card, a vehicle, or various large or long-term assets including stock, mutual funds, business assets or real estate.
- Use the free Generosity by Lifeway app. Download it to your smartphone and you’ll be set up to give no matter where you are. If you have trouble remembering to give, you can designate that your gift be made, weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually. Once you set it up, it will happen automatically.

Do you have questions about electronic giving? Ask CeCe Robinson or Tad Stryker.

Offerings Tad Stryker, Elder

Offerings are at 65 percent of our goal through May.

The board of elders has set a financial goal of \$6,000 per month in local giving. Through the end of April, we are averaging \$4,095 per month, or about 65 percent of our goal. Let’s work together to raise this monthly total!

January:	\$4,270
February:	\$3,513
March:	\$5,489
April:	\$3,107
May:	\$3,266

Serving

Jen Foreman

1 Corinthians 12:12 states the body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.

I find this scripture to be effective regarding the different roles we can serve within the church. All are important in a healthy way of functioning within “F” Street Church. We have different teams, different needs, and are always looking for people to join some of those teams. There is the prayer team, nursery helpers, and Sunday door greeters. We also feature a Farmers

Market on Tuesdays, and are in need of people to set up and tear down. In addition, there is the exciting work happening at Transformations Thrift Store. Atlas provides ways to serve as well.

As you can see, there are many opportunities to serve and grow with the community. I have had the privilege of serving in a few of these areas, and found that it is a healthy way to give back and stay connected. By serving, we become engaged in the growth, not just with our church and church family, but also with our community. It's also a healthy way to keep ourselves accountable, and by doing so it keeps us in a good place mentally.

I encourage you to consider serving in whatever area that you feel interested in. By helping our community, we help ourselves, and God does amazing things for us all in the process.

So if the Spirit is stirring inside of you, and you are interested, please speak with Kayla Wilson and she can point you in the right direction. If for whatever reason you don't know who Kayla is, speak to someone you know to find out. We are thrilled to have more people engaged in the good work God is doing at "F" Street Neighborhood Church, and in our community. "For the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his field." *Matthew 9: 35-38*

"F" Street Neighborhood Church
Block Party, Sunday, July 28
Come at 9:30 a.m. for the Bagels & Coffee,

*Celebrate with us in Worship, then
join in the fun at the **Block Party.***



*Bring yourself, a friend, and enjoy
some free burgers, hotdogs, and a
great time.*



ATLAS of Lincoln: July Update

Brody M. Van Roekel, Director, Atlas: Lincoln

Happy summer dear people! I can't believe how fast the month of June went. So many awesome things happening!

We celebrate with Transformations Thrift Store for opening this month, and have already had some great relationship-connections with folks coming into the store to shop.

There have been many new opportunities to share about Atlas

with so many great people. Business owners, professionals, churches, Immerse groups, and new community folks have reached out wanting to learn more about Atlas. My favorite new opportunity, though, is all the new people we've been able to help. Weekly, someone new reaches out for the personal and intimate mentorship services Atlas provides. The harvest is truly plentiful.

On August 1, we will rejoice and praise God for our first birthday! Make sure to read the "August Atlas Update" to find out about how we will be celebrating.

We are always in need of people who want to be the hands and feet of Christ by being prayer partners, mentors, and gift-makers. Atlas can use volunteers with many sorts of giftings. If you would like to pray for Atlas on a monthly basis, sign up on our website at <https://www.atlaslincoln.org/volunteer>. If you'd like to find out what it means to be an Atlas mentor, we are hosting another Mentor Training Workshop on Wednesday, July 24, 7:00 p.m. at the Atlas office (745 D Street). If you want to find out how to make a gift to support the work God is doing through Atlas, reach out to Brody for a meeting.

If you have any desire to serve our community through Atlas: Lincoln, but don't know how you might fit in, there are many opportunities to do so. Contact Brody at 712.441.5403 or brody@atlaslincoln.org and let's talk about ways we can touch lives for Christ together.

Parish Nurses' Corner Barb Douglas, Parish Nurse

Hello "F" Street Church Brothers and Sisters,

Has everyone been enjoying our rainy June weather? Though heat and humidity are not my favorite atmospheric conditions, they are most definitely needed for vegetable gardens to grow. It looks like maybe July is going to be more conducive to growing our gardens. I hope so anyway, because the Farmers Market depends on the produce from the locally grown vegetables and fruits. Please pray with me for the weather to be exactly what we need for fruits and vegetables to grow in abundance for all of us to enjoy.

Remember to, that as it gets warmer and more humid, it is important for everyone, who is out and about, to take along some water, and plan rest breaks in the shade, to avoid heat exhaustion or stroke. Be smart this summer, make it a goal to stay healthy and be aware of your surroundings.

Making choices to remain healthy and safe are very important. Stopping in at the Farmers Market every Tuesday from 4:30- 7:00 p.m. would be a good choice. Stop and use your EBT cards for some great deals on purchases. Also available is an inexpensive meal off the grill. A family of six can eat for \$7.50: hotdog, chips, and a drink for each person! Fantastic! Where else can you take the whole family to eat for less than \$10? There is the added benefit of shopping for the freshest of produce at great prices! Plan to make this one of your new goals and better choices for the summer.

God wants each of us to benefit and thrive in community with each other. Please remember that "F" Street Neighborhood

Church is a place of acceptance and direction. All are accepted, right where they are, but remember too, that God loves each of us too much to leave us there. Psalm 145:15-17; "The eyes of all look to you in hope, you give them their food as they need it. When you open your hand you satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing. The Lord is righteous in everything he does; he is filled with kindness."

Back to goals and choices: We can start making better goals and choices by being very honest with ourselves about who we are, what we need (differentiating between 'want and need' honestly), why we need it, and how to go about getting these things honestly and wholesomely. Please come in and talk to me about doing these very things. I would love to help anyone who desires. To begin with, just be yourself. Attempts to be something you're not wastes valuable time and energy that can be put to better use making healthier choices for yourself. Tell yourself the truth - not to beat yourself up, but to move forward in a more positive direction. Sometimes facing yourself in the mirror is scary and hard, but that is what being accepted and directed means.

Having someone next to us that understands those scary, hard things, is willing to help us face them, and become more like the person God created us to be, can help us in our personal growth. This is something we here at FSNC want to help with. Contact me here at the church, any Tuesday - Thursday, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at 402-435-3673. You may also call Brody, for ATLAS, at 712-441-5403, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. These are the hours we are always available to anyone who asks. However, God is available ALL the time. Reading his word is a sure and wholesome way to learn these things I have explained.

Coming to church on Sundays (Bagels and Coffee at 9:30 a.m. and Worship from 10:30 a.m.) is one way Gods people reach out to a hurting, lost and confused world, and bring us closer to each other and to him. Remember "God is love." That means love is an action, not simply a feeling. Take action today and join us

here nearly every day, there is someone available to help you find a better way.

God's Blessings to everyone,
Your Parish Nurse,
Barbara J. Douglas PNFSNC.



Farmer's Market
Tuesdays, 4:30-7:00 p.m.
Good Food, Good Fun
Don't Miss It

Community Groups

Thursday Group: 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Keith Morrissey's home. Contact Keith Morrissey, 402-525-4897.

Sunday Group: 12:00-1:00 p.m. at "F" Street Church. Contact Keith Morrissey, 402-525-4897.

Sunday Group: 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Art & Kayla Wilson's home. Contact them, 402-318-4968.



Wisdom Literature Monthly Bible Reading Plan

July	Psalms	July	Psalms	July	Psalms	July	Psalms	July	Psalms
1	<input type="checkbox"/> 88	8	<input type="checkbox"/> 93	15	<input type="checkbox"/> 98	22	<input type="checkbox"/> 103	29	<input type="checkbox"/> 108
2	<input type="checkbox"/> 89	9	<input type="checkbox"/> 94	16	<input type="checkbox"/> 99	23	<input type="checkbox"/> 104	30	<input type="checkbox"/> 109
3	<input type="checkbox"/> 90	10	<input type="checkbox"/> 95	17	<input type="checkbox"/> 100	24	<input type="checkbox"/> 105	31	<input type="checkbox"/> 110
4	<input type="checkbox"/> 91	11	<input type="checkbox"/> 96	18	<input type="checkbox"/> 101	25	<input type="checkbox"/> 106		
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	12	<input type="checkbox"/> 97	19	<input type="checkbox"/> 102	26	<input type="checkbox"/> 107		